GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:231
ANSWERED ON:18.07.2017
Impact of Pollution on Taj Mahal
Vichare Shri Rajan Baburao

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a recent IIT, Kanpur study has revealed that carbon pollution around the Taj Mahal is turning its white marble yellow;
(b) if so, whether the Taj Trapezium Zone Authority has passed orders to convert vehicles plying near Taj to CNG;
(c) whether the said orders are likely to be applied only to vehicles operating within the Taj Trapezium Zone (TTZ) or for other vehicles viz. trucks and other heavy vehicles also and if so, the details thereof; and
(d) the status of compliance of the said orders?

Answer

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(DR. HARSH VARDHAN)

(a) A number of studies have been carried out by various research teams regarding discolouring of Taj Mahal. According to one such study, carbon pollution around the Taj is causing the white marble to turn yellow.

(b)& (c) Yes, The Taj Trapezium Zone (TTZ) Authority has banned plying of petrol and diesel vehicles within 500 meter distance from Taj Mahal. The TTZ Authority has passed orders for conversion of light petrol and diesel operated vehicles operating around Taj into CNG.

(d) Every effort is being made by the concerned authorities to ensure compliance and numbers of vehicles have been challaned for violation of directions in this regard.

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